

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 123344  
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-03 HA-05 EB-08 CIAE-00 INR-10  
NSAE-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 IO-13 (ISO) R

DRAFTED BY USOAS:RWINSTANLEY  
APPROVED BY USOAS:MDION  
USOAS:IGTRAGEN (DRAFT)  
-----109575 160504Z /13

R 152102Z MAY 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS  
INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN  
AMEMBASSY NASSAU

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 123344

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OAS, EGEN, PORG, XM

SUBJECT: OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY: PREPARATORY COMMITTEE SETS  
TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR INFORMAL DIALOGUE

1. IN A HARMONIOUS MEETING MAY 12, CHARACTERIZED BY HELPFUL INTERVENTION OF PANAMANIAN, ARGENTINIAN, BRAZILIAN, MEXICAN AND GUATEMALAN DELEGATIONS, VIII OASGA PREPARATORY COMMITTEE AGREED ON TIMING AND STRUCTURE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS' "INFORMAL DIALOGUE" AT UPCOMING GA. DELEGATIONS AGREED IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO HOLD DOWN SPEECH-MAKING TO EXTENT POSSIBLE DURING DIALOGUE SESSIONS BUT RECOGNIZED DIFFICULTY OF RESTRAINING FOREIGN MINISTERS FROM MAKING LONG FORMAL STATEMENTS. GROUP ACCEPTED RECOMMENDATION OF PANAMANIAN REPRESENTATIVE PITY THAT FIRST TWO DAYS OF SESSIONS (JUNE 22 AND 23) BE DEVOTED TO INFORMAL DIALOGUE AND THAT PLENARY SESSION FOR SPEECHES BE POSTPONED AT LEAST UNTIL SATURDAY JUNE 24, OF WHICH HALF  
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DAY COULD BE DEVOTED FOR THIS PURPOSE. SPEECHES WILL HOPEFULLY BE ABBREVIATED (5-8 MINUTES) WITH FULL TEXT BEING ENTERED IN RECORD OR GIVEN TO PRESS.

2. PREPARATORY COMMITTEE AGREED WITH US SUGGESTION THAT INFORMAL DIALOGUE BE STRUCTURED AROUND THREE MAJOR THEMES: OAS RESTRUCTURING, ECONOMIC ISSUES AND HUMAN RIGHTS.

RESTRUCTURING WILL INCLUDE GENERAL DISCUSSION OF PURPOSES AND FUTURE OF INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM AND SHOULD INCLUDE CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL ISSUES, INCLUDING URGENT NECESSITY OF REALIGNING QUOTAS OF MEMBER STATES TO REDUCE US CONTRIBUTION FROM 66 TO 49 PERCENT. SECOND THEME, "ECONOMIC ISSUES", WILL HOPEFULLY GO BEYOND RITUAL FLAGELLATION FOR US FOR TRADE ACT OF 1974 AND OTHER ALLEGED PROTECTIONIST SINS TO CONSIDERATION OF BROADER ECONOMIC PROBLEMS OF CONCERN TO AMERICAN STATES. FINALLY, CLUSTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS AND A RELATED BUT SEPARATE DISCUSSION OF TERRORISM WILL CONSTITUTE THIRD MAJOR THEME OF DIALOGUE. A FOURTH THEME APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE, "STATUS OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND PANAMA ON THE PANAMA CANAL", SHOULD TAKE VERY LITTLE TIME. US HOPES THAT FIRST THREE THEMES -- RESTRUCTURING, ECONOMIC ISSUES AND HUMAN RIGHTS -- WILL BE DISCUSSED IN THAT ORDER.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE ACTION POSTS' VIEWS ON PROBABLE APPROACHES OF HOST GOVERNMENTS TO ISSUES WHICH WILL BE CONSIDERED IN FORMAL DIALOGUE. DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPROACHES TO GOVERNMENTS ON OAS ISSUES WILL FOLLOW IN COMING WEEKS. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEETING AGENDA, COMMITTEES  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**TAGS:** EGEN, PORG, XM, OAS  
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